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NORTH DAKOTA HOMELAND SECURITY ANIT-TERRORISM SUMMARY



The North Dakota Open Source Anti-Terrorism Summary is a product of the North Dakota State and Local Intelligence Center (NDSLIC). It provides open source news articles and information on terrorism, crime, and potential destructive or damaging acts of nature or unintentional acts. Articles are placed in the Anti-Terrorism Summary to provide situational awareness for local law enforcement, first responders, government officials, and private/public infrastructure owners.

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NORTH DAKOTA

Major U.S. oil pipeline closed. Canadian Pipeline Company TransCanada said a section of its Keystone oil pipeline would remain out of service for several days following an oil leak the weekend of May 7 and 8. A small nipple failed at a pumping station along the pipeline in North Dakota. The company said about 280 barrels of oil was recovered from the area of the spill. Workers kept the pipeline closed while inspectors examined similar fittings along the pipeline. "Operations will not resume until the company inspects all similar fittings along the pipeline route," a spokesman for TransCanada told Bloomberg News. U.S. regulators said the company did not need approval to restart the oil pipeline. TransCanada said the spill was contained to the site, adding there were not any problems on the physical pipeline. TransCanada started shipping crude oil through a section of the Keystone pipeline in February. It runs from Nebraska to storage tanks in Oklahoma. The portion of the Keystone pipeline carries around 590,000 barrels of oil per day. Source: http://www.upi.com/Science_News/Resource-Wars/2011/05/10/Major-US-oil-pipeline-closed/UPI-79391305029355/

REGIONAL

(Minnesota) Gas main ruptures in St. Anthony and Minneapolis. Many homes in St. Anthony and Minneapolis, Minnesota, were evacuated May 10 after a high-pressure gas main was ruptured and gas leaked into the neighborhood. The leak was expected to be fixed late May 10. The high-pressure gas main on NE Stinson Boulevard between NE 29th Avenue and NE 30th Avenue was ruptured about 2:30 p.m. by a Northern Natural Pipeline crew working for CenterPoint, a company spokeswoman said. She said crews could not shut off the gas to the 12-inch diameter main because it served so many customers, including a hospital. Instead, crews rerouted the gas line so as not to disrupt service to those customers once workers shut off the gas in the immediate area of the leak. Homes on Stinson between NE 29th and NE 34th avenues were evacuated, and several more to the east and west, including homes on McKinley Street NE, according to the spokeswoman. That stretch of Stinson Boulevard divides Minneapolis and St. Anthony. The gas spewed high into the air, hissing loudly but emitting little smell near the scene because of its trajectory. The workers were doing routine maintenance at the time, the spokeswoman said. Source: <http://www.startribune.com/local/east/121595049.html>

(Minnesota) **Prairie Island Nuclear Power Plant up and running after shutdown.** The Prairie Island Nuclear Generating Station in Red Wing, Minnesota, was up and running May 10 after Xcel Energy officials believe thunderstorms triggered the automatic shutdown of a reactor May 9. The shutdown occurred May 9 after heavy rain and hail fell throughout the Twin Cities and other parts of the state. Investigators said they were still working to determine the exact cause of the reactor shutdown. No radioactive material was released, according to plant officials. The reactor has since been re-started. Source: <http://kstp.com/article/stories/s2104209.shtml>

(Montana) **Rocket testing resumes at facility west of Butte 5 months after explosion.** Five months after an explosion destroyed a rocket testing facility west of Butte, Montana, testing has resumed on smaller rockets, Associated Press reported May 10. The Montana Standard

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reports Space Propulsion Group and the Montana Aerospace Development Association (MADA) recently conducted three successful experiments on an 11-inch diameter hybrid fuel rocket. The MADA director said the recent tests included new materials used in real-world space launches. The smaller prototype had been tested successfully several times. It was the first test of the 24-inch version that caused the explosion. No one was injured, but the blast destroyed the \$168,000 steel-sized facility. The recent tests were completed in a new test cell, near the site of the old facility. The tests used a debris containment system and other recommendations made after the U.S. Air Force investigated January's explosion. Source:

<http://www.therepublic.com/view/story/d5711ec1abe44a5da44e8619a6bd1422/MT--Rocket-Testing/>

NATIONAL

Mississippi flooding threatens crops, oil refineries and homes. The rising water in the Mississippi River and the fight to control it has already interrupted coal shipments to power plants in Tennessee, flooded more than a 100,000 acres of Missouri cropland, and forced thousands from their homes, Bloomberg reported May 10. To relieve the flood threat to New Orleans and Baton Rouge, Louisiana, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers may open the Morganza Floodway. The opening of the spillway could affect two refineries, according to the governor's office. One of the refineries, on the Mississippi River, could have 75 percent of its capacity reduced for at least 2 weeks, according to the state's department of natural resources. A refinery at Krotz Springs, Louisiana, may be affected because it is outside the city's levee ring, said the president of Lipow Oil Associates LLC in Houston, Texas. On the Mississippi between New Orleans and Baton Rouge, there are 11 refineries with a combined capacity of 2.5 million barrels per day, or 13 percent of U.S. output, the Lipow president said. "The worst case is that the Mississippi rises and we get actual flooding in the refineries and that could shut them down several months like we saw with Hurricane Katrina," he said, however it is not expected to reach that level. Royal Dutch Shell Plc will supply plants at Geismar and Norocol by rail if the river prevents barges and ships from unloading, according to a company spokeswoman. Flooding stopped barge traffic on the Ohio River and north of Memphis on the Mississippi the week of April 1, and has interrupted shipping south of the Tennessee city. The Tennessee Valley Authority is facing a shortage in coal shipments at four units at its Gallatin power plant because high waters have closed a lock used to move barges up for unloading. The Mississippi and Ohio rivers are also major delivery systems for commodities and crops such as corn, soybeans, and other crops grown along their banks. Source: <http://www.sfgate.com/cgi-bin/article.cgi?f=/g/a/2011/05/10/bloomberg1376-LKYDM60UQVI901-4PK7NQRLBRH64SPFRPOULR8QL5.DTL>

INTERNATIONAL

Hundreds evacuated from German train over terror scare. German police said 250 passengers were evacuated from a high speed train as authorities feared a possible terror attack. The Stuttgart Federal Police spokesman said May 6 there was "sufficient threatening evidence" to fear an attack on the train from Berlin, bound for Interlaken, Switzerland. He said police and

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sniffer dogs searched the entire Inter City Express train near the southwestern city of Freiburg around midday, but did not find explosives or any other dangerous material. He declined to elaborate on the reasons for the search, citing the ongoing investigation. The DAPD news agency cited a police source as saying that a CD-ROM found on the train pointed to an Islamic terrorist link. Source: <http://www.foxnews.com/world/2011/05/06/hundreds-evacuated-german-train-terror-scare/>

BANKING AND FINANCE INDUSTRY

Reports of mortgage fraud reach record level. Reports of mortgage fraud, which have been increasing since the housing boom, rose to their highest level on record in 2010, Treasury Department figures showed May 9. The Financial Crimes Enforcement Network, a Treasury agency, reported 70,472 “suspicious activity reports” related to suspected mortgage fraud, up from 67,507 in 2009, or a 5 percent increase. That is the highest number recorded by the government since tracking began in 1996. At the height of the U.S. housing boom, in 2006, more than 37,000 fraud reports were recorded. In 2001, before the housing market heated up, there were 4,695 reports of suspected mortgage fraud. Much of the suspected fraud being reported took place several years ago and is only now coming to light, according to Lexis-Nexis’s Mortgage Assert Research Institute, a data service, which issued a report May 9 highlighting the statistics. Last July, the Obama administration began a broad effort to investigate and prosecute mortgage fraud that resulted in 485 arrests and 1,215 criminal defendants in cases that resulted in the recovery of about \$147 million of \$2.3 billion in losses, according to the Department of Justice. Source: http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424052748704681904576313591278154546.html?mod=googlenews_wsj

CHEMICAL AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS SECTOR

NRC task force: U.S. nuclear plants still safe. A federal task force May 12 vouched anew for the safety of U.S. nuclear power plants in the aftermath of the Japanese crisis. The group established by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) said it has not identified any issues that undermine confidence in the continued safety and emergency planning at the 104 U.S. nuclear reactors. The task force said it is likely to recommend changes in rules governing plants to enhance safety and preparedness and lower the level of risk. The group comprised of senior NRC staffers said it will address a range of issues at plants, including their ability to cope with prolonged power outages caused by earthquakes, floods, fires, or other catastrophic events. The NRC has mandated that U.S. plants need only cope without power for 4 to 8 hours. The task force did not make a recommendation on so-called “station blackouts,” but the group’s chairman said it likely will be addressed in a 90-day report due in July. The task force also will review ways to prevent long-term damage to core reactors and spent fuel pools in the event of a long-term blackout, a senior NRC staffer who chairs the task force said. The progress report came as a U.S. Representative from Massachusetts released a report highlighting what he called inadequacies at the NRC that could impair effective oversight of nuclear plants. He said

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emergency diesel generators have repeatedly failed at dozens of plants in recent years. At least 69 incidents of generator failures were reported at 33 plants in the past 8 years, he said. NRC rules do not require emergency generators to be operational when there is no fuel in a nuclear reactor core, even though that could leave spent fuel pools without any back-up cooling system in case power is lost, the report said. Source:

<http://www.businessweek.com/ap/financialnews/D9N5VT000.htm>

NRC asks nuclear power operators for information on extreme situations. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff has asked U.S. nuclear power plant operators for information on how the plants are complying with requirements to deal with the loss of large areas of the plant after extreme events. The events at the Fukushima nuclear power plant in Japan, following the March 11 earthquake and tsunami, have highlighted the potential for U.S. plants to implement mitigative strategies, sometimes called “B5b” strategies. The NRC is collecting information on the plants’ approach to ensuring their strategies remain effective over time. The NRC said these strategies can effectively cool down reactor cores and spent fuel pools even if a plant’s normal safety systems are damaged or unavailable. “We’ll review the plants’ responses to see if they need to take any additional actions to meet our existing requirements, along with seeing what the NRC might need to do to enhance those requirements and continue to protect public health and safety,” the NRC chairman said. Plants have until June 10 to respond with information confirming mitigative-strategy equipment is in place and available, as well as that the strategies can be carried out with current plant staffing. Plants have until July 11 to respond with further data including: how essential resources are maintained, tested, and controlled to ensure availability; how strategies are re-evaluated if plant conditions or configurations change; how arrangements are reached and maintained with local emergency response organizations.

Source:

<http://www.powergenworldwide.com/index/display/articledisplay/0200744620/articles/powergenworldwide/nuclear/o-and-m/2011/05/NRC-wants-info-on-extreme-situations.html>

COMMERCIAL FACILITIES

(New York) Terror plot against New York synagogue busted. Two men suspected of planning an attack on a Manhattan synagogue were arrested by New York City police May 11, two law enforcement sources told CNN May 12. The suspects had not yet selected which synagogue, one of the sources told CNN. “The men bought three or four guns and a hand grenade and that’s when the arrests were made,” according to the source who asked not to be identified. The men were arrested on a street on the west side of Manhattan, in a sting that was part of a New York City Police Department undercover operation, the two law enforcement sources said. The terror threat “was on the radar screen for a few months,” well before the leader of al Qaida was killed by the U.S. military in Pakistan, one of the law enforcement sources said. The men appear to be lone wolves acting on their own, the sources said. They noted the men are of North African descent. At least one of the men is a U.S. citizen. The men offered no resistance during the arrest. Their plot appears to be more aspirational than operational, because they had not worked out details, one of the sources said. Source:

<http://edition.cnn.com/2011/CRIME/05/12/new.york.terror.arrests/>

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Scammers take advantage of ticket allocation to craft Olympics scams. Fraudsters have begun ramping up the production of scams ahead of the 2012 Olympic Games in London, England next July. The ticket allocation lottery process has been accompanied by two email-borne scams, with more likely to follow, Trend Micro warns. The first of the scam messages comes with a .DOC attachment that asks for personal information such as mobile number, PIN number, and security code among others. The use of an attachment is designed to evade less sophisticated e-mail filters. Another slew of spammed messages falsely informs would-be marks they have won the London 2012 Olympics Lottery, a non-existent draw purportedly organized by the “National Lottery Board of United Kingdom”. The e-mail invites recipients to respond with sensitive information such as their name, address, and date of birth as a possible prelude to an advanced-fee fraud scam. Marks would be induced to pay escalating sums of money up front to get their hands on non-existent winnings. The ID theft and 419-lite (AKA lottery) scams are a classic accompaniment to landmark sporting events, such as the World Cup and the Olympics. Source: http://www.theregister.co.uk/2011/05/12/olympics_scams/

(Michigan) ATF is trying to determine whether two explosive devices found in Trenton are linked. The Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) said it is trying to determine if two explosive devices found in Trenton, Michigan, were designed and left by the same person. A \$2,500 reward is being offered for information leading to the arrest and conviction of those responsible. The first explosive device was found April 29 in the teachers’ parking lot at Trenton High School. The bomb squad was called in and it was removed. The ATF later determined it was in fact a dangerous explosive. A second device was found May 4 in front of Aco Hardware in the Trafford Square shopping center, just a few miles from Trenton High School. Employees at the hardware store said police were called in the afternoon when they saw smoke coming out of a United Parcel Service box. A cell phone was on top of the box. A spokesman for the ATF said it was difficult to say how dangerous the devices were, but they are certain that if either had detonated close to someone, there could have been serious injuries. Source: http://www.wxyz.com/dpp/news/region/wayne_county/atf-is-trying-to-determine-whether-two-explosive-devices-found-in-trenton-are-linked

COMMUNICATIONS SECTOR

FCC gets aggressive on broadcast tower safety. The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) Enforcement Bureau is getting aggressive in fining broadcasters for safety issues involving their antenna towers. In several recent fines, the commission is taking the position that any violation — if it occurs on more than one day — is willful and a repeated violation. The Broadcast Law Blog cited three recent FCC cases that it said demonstrates how seriously the FCC views tower site safety issues. A broadcast station was fined a total of \$14,000 when it was found the fence surrounding its transmitter was falling down and it did not enclose areas of high RF radiation. The station also had a main studio that was unattended on 2 successive days, and had no one answering the phone on those days when the FCC tried to call. In another case, the FCC fined a station \$10,000 for areas of high RF radiation that were not fenced or marked by signs when the FCC conducted its inspection and \$4000 for operating overpower. In another

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case, the FCC fined a station because the flashing beacon on the top of a tower was out on 2 successive days, even though the required steady-lit obstruction lights on the side of the tower were operational. While the licensee notified the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) of the outage 3 days later (with no noted prompting from the FCC), and had the situation corrected 2 days after notifying the FAA, the FCC determined the violation was repeated and willful, leading to a \$10,000 fine. Source:

http://broadcastengineering.com/news/fcc_gets_aggressive_on_broadcast_tower_safety_051211/

Majority not prepared for IPv6 transition. About 88 percent of business networks were not fully ready for a change to IPv6, with two thirds saying their networks are only 0-20 percent ready, despite the fact the last blocks of IPv4 addresses have been allocated, according to Ipswitch. "While IPv6 provides the ability to greatly expand the number of devices on the Internet, it also poses migration, compatibility and management challenges for today's IPv4-based networks," said the vice president of product management and strategy at Ipswitch's Network Management Division. "Our poll shows the need for companies to develop transition strategies in order to increase IPv6 readiness among enterprise networks and prevent any future disruption to mission-critical systems." IPv6 is a next-generation IP protocol designed to replace IPv4, the Internet protocol most commonly used in the world and the foundation for most Internet communications. With the number of available IPv4 addresses quickly running out, transitioning to IPv6 will soon become a requirement for enterprise networks. IPv6 enables significant expansion of the IP addresses needed to accommodate the continuously growing number of worldwide Internet users, and provides additional security features for Internet traffic. Ipswitch's WhatsUp Gold IT management platform has supported IPv6 for 5 years to help enterprises ease the transition to the new protocol. Source: <http://www.net-security.org/secworld.php?id=11007>

FCC and cellphone carriers team for nationwide emergency alerts. Consumers will get emergency alerts for hurricanes, tornadoes, and other disasters on their cell phones as part of a new alert network slated to be announced May 10 by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC). The Personal Localized Alerting Network, or PLAN, will allow emergency officials to send geographically targeted text messages to cell phones in areas where there is imminent danger. Today, at the World Trade Center site in New York City, the FCC Chairman and New York mayor will announce New York will have the free PLAN service operational by year's end. Officials also expect to have Washington, D.C., on board by then. Four cellular providers — AT&T, Sprint, T-Mobile, and Verizon — have collaborated to voluntarily initiate the service prior to an April 2012 deadline for PLAN to be launched nationwide. Officials hope to include the entire metropolitan areas of the two cities. The emergency alerts will be initiated by local, state or government agencies. Once the Federal Emergency Management Agency and PLAN have ensured an alert is valid, it will be forwarded to wireless providers, which will relay the message to consumers. Source:

<http://www.lancastereaglegazette.com/article/20110510/NEWS01/105100308/FCC-cellphone-carriers-team-nationwide-emergency-alerts+>

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CRITICAL MANUFACTURING

Ford F-150 truck probe expands to 2.7 million. U.S. safety regulators said they have expanded an investigation into the possibility that straps holding fuel tanks can rust and break on Ford Motor Co F-150 pickup trucks from the 1997-2001 model years to 2.7 million vehicles. The U.S. National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) said the weekend of May 7 and 8 that two fires have resulted from the issue in which one or both of the steel straps that hold the F-150 fuel tank in place rust and break. An investigation is short of a recall but many investigations lead to an automaker recalling vehicles for safety issues. The F-150 is the primary model in the Ford F-series pickup truck lineup which are the best-selling vehicles in North America. Ford reported a complaint where a vehicle was destroyed by fire due to a leaking fuel tank, and safety regulators said they had received one complaint of a fire that went out before it caused major damage. There were 306 consumer complaints, 175 filed with the NHTSA and 156 with Ford. Some consumers filed with both the automaker and the safety regulator, the NHTSA said. "Among the incidents reported to NHTSA or Ford, 243 involved the fuel tank dropping below the vehicle and/or dragging on the ground, 95 involved fuel leakage, and nine included reports of sparks from the tank being dragged on the road," the NHTSA filing said. The probe was opened last September when an estimated 1.4 million F-150 pickup trucks were suspected of possibly having the problem. The investigation was opened after 32 consumer complaints had been received by last September. Source:

<http://www.reuters.com/article/2011/05/09/us-ford-nhtsa-idUSTRE7482TZ20110509>

Barged alumina delays leave smelters on alert. Severe flooding along two major Midwest waterways has ground shipments of barged alumina to a halt, forcing five of the country's largest smelters to consider shipping alternatives and jeopardizing nearly 1.3 million tons of annual domestic aluminum capacity, American Metal Market reported May 9. According to market sources, five major primary smelters — Alcoa Inc.'s Warrick Operations in Warrick, Indiana; Ormet Corp.'s facility in Hannibal, Ohio; Century Aluminum Corp.'s plant in Hawesville, Kentucky; Noranda Aluminum Holding Co.'s New Madrid, Missouri, smelter; and Rio Tinto Alcan's Sebree, Kentucky, facility — are facing receiving delays as high water levels along the Mississippi and Ohio Rivers obstruct traffic and leave bulk shipments stranded. The flooding has been an issue for weeks, but the problem worsened for many riverside industries May 6 when the U.S. Coast Guard announced plans to close a 5-mile stretch of the Mississippi River to barge traffic. Source: <http://www.metalbulletin.com/Article/2820846/AMM-Barged-alumina-delays-leave-smelters-on-alert.html>

DEFENSE/ INDUSTRY BASE SECTOR

F-35's range falls short of predictions. The U.S. Air Force's F-35A Lightning II appears to be unable to fly as far as once predicted, according to a Pentagon document, Defense News reported May 12. The aircraft is currently estimated to have a combat mission radius of 584 nautical miles, just short of the required 590 nautical miles, according to a Selected Acquisition Report dated December 31. Program officials previously estimated that the aircraft, unrefueled, would be able to strike targets 690 nautical miles away. The report said the shortfall is caused

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by increased use of engine bleed air and fuel capacity issues “that are not yet fully known.”

Source: <http://www.defensenews.com/story.php?i=6491165&c=AME&s=AIR>

EMERGENCY SERVICES

(Colorado) Woman charged with throwing explosive device at Denver police. A 20-year-old woman accused of hurling a Molotov cocktail at police in Denver, Colorado, was charged with multiple felonies, including attempted murder. She also faces additional felony charges of use of explosives, possession of explosives, second-degree arson, criminal mischief, and inciting a riot, the Denver district attorney’s (DA) office announced May 12. The charges carry a possible maximum penalty of 90 years in prison. The DA’s office said that about 9:15 p.m. May 6, the suspect threw an incendiary or explosive device at Denver police officers in a marked patrol car. The device exploded and burned. She fled but was taken into custody a short time later, spitting on officers as she resisted arrest, prosecutors said. The suspect is being held at the Denver County Jail in lieu of \$50,000 bail. Source: http://www.denverpost.com/news/ci_18053986

Officials warn Facebook and Twitter increase police vulnerability. In the midst of what officials call an “appalling” and “alarmingly” in attacks on law enforcement around the country, officials are warning the success of sites such as Facebook and Twitter has made police even more vulnerable. While police have for some time used social networking sites to identify and investigate suspected criminals, now criminals are using such sites to identify and investigate law enforcement officers, including undercover police. In addition, host takers and suspects who barricade themselves in buildings are monitoring social media to track police movements in real time, and gang members are launching their own surveillance operations targeting police. An official from the Milwaukee, Wisconsin police department noted that some “criminal elements” now monitor social media they are in the middle of holding a hostage or barricading themselves inside a building. Officials also mentioned other ways social media can hurt law enforcement personnel. A gang expert from Albany, New York, said gangs in his area are actively conducting “surveillance” operations on police using their mobile devices, and many officials noted that sites such as Facebook and Twitter can turn private videos into “viral” sensations. In the United States, many police departments are now contemplating policies they should — and legally can — put into place when it comes to officers’ use of social media. Source: <http://www.foxnews.com/scitech/2011/05/10/officials-warn-facebook-twitter-increase-police-vulnerability/?test=latestnews>

ENERGY

CERT warns of critical industrial control bug. A group collaborating with the U.S. Computer Emergency Readiness Team is warning oil refineries, power plants, and other industrial facilities of a bug in a popular piece of software that could allow attackers to take control of their computer systems. The vulnerability in the Genesis32 and BizViz products made by Massachusetts-based Iconics could allow attackers to remotely execute malicious code on

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machines that run these supervisory control and data acquisition programs (SCADA), the Industrial Control Systems CERT warned May 11. The programs are used to control equipment used in factories, water, wastewater and electric utilities, and oil and gas refineries. The vulnerability stems from a stack-overflow bug found in an ActiveX control used by the SCADA programs and can be exploited to gain command-execution capability, researchers from Australasia-based Security-Assessment.com warned. "By passing a specially crafted string to the 'SetActiveXGUID' method, it is possible to overflow a static buffer and execute arbitrary code on the user's machine with the privileges of the logged on user," the researchers warned. They included a proof-of-concept exploit written in JavaScript. Iconics has updated the vulnerable component to plug the security hole. According to the advisory, version 9.22 of Genesis32 and BizViz is not susceptible to the attack. Source:

http://www.theregister.co.uk/2011/05/12/critical_iconics_scada_bug/

FOOD AND AGRICULTURE

(Michigan) Study: MRSA found in U.S. retail meat. Some beef, chicken, and turkey sold in Michigan grocery stores contained the human type of methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus*, Wayne State University researchers said. The researchers collected 289 raw meat samples — 156 beef, 76 chicken, and 57 turkey — from 30 grocery stores in Detroit from August 2009 to January 2010. Up to three presumptive *Staphylococcus aureus* colonies — the most common cause of staph infections frequently found in the nose and on skin on humans — per sample were identified by testing. The study, scheduled to be published in the June issue of *Emerging Infectious Diseases*, found 22.5 percent of the samples yielded *S. aureus*: 20.5 percent in beef, 25 percent in chicken, and 24.6 percent in turkey. Six samples — two in beef, three in chicken, and one in turkey — were positive for MRSA, the study said. The retail beef, chicken, and turkey examined in Michigan contained the human type of MRSA — not the animal type more commonly found in Europe — indicating U.S. meat contamination may come from human meat handlers, not the animals themselves, the study said. "Cooking kills MRSA," an assistant professor at Wayne State stated. Source:

http://www.upi.com/Health_News/2011/05/12/Study-MRSA-found-in-US-retail-meat/UPI-41411305233405/

(Florida) Oyster outbreak a first for mild strain of cholera. The raw Florida oysters that sickened at least 11 people during March and April were contaminated with an unusual but mild strain of cholera. "This is the first outbreak of illness from this strain of cholera in Florida, and we have yet to be able to find any other cases in the United States," a Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (FDACS) spokesman said. The toxigenic *Vibrio cholerae* O75 strain detected in the oysters, from one of Apalachicola Bay's most productive oyster zones, is related to *V. cholerae* O1 and O139 that cause cholera epidemics, but the O75 strain causes less severe illness. "There are stomachaches and diarrhea for a couple of days and then it's over," the director of FDAC's Division of Aquaculture said. "There have been no hospitalizations and everyone recovered." The oysters that caused the illnesses were harvested between March 21 and April 6 from a 2-mile section of Apalachicola Bay near Eastpoint called

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Area 1642. State officials were cooperating with the U.S. Food and Drug Administration and the Interstate Shellfish Sanitation Conference in investigating the outbreak. The FDACS spokesman said these strains of cholera occur naturally in sea and coastal waters, but could also occur from pollution sources such as sewerage outflows. He said the investigation has led to speculation that a U.S. Army Corps of Engineers dredging operation, conducted between February 21 and March 22, may have stirred up organisms on the floor of the bay that led to the outbreak.

Source: <http://www.foodsafetynews.com/2011/05/oyster-outbreak-a-first-for-mild-strain-of-cholera/>

Alarm over rural veterinarian shortage. More than 1,500 counties in the United States are without a single veterinarian to treat animals, the American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA) said. That amounts to 44 states with at least one shortage area, designated annually by the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA). "This has been bad and getting worse for a number of years," the CEO of the American AVMA said. "There has not been a time when it was worse than it is now." The shortage is most acute in states with the most food-producing animals, such as cows, chickens, and pigs. In Idaho, 33 of its 44 counties are in need of rural veterinarians; in South Dakota, more than a dozen counties have more than 25,000 food-producing animals, but no food-animal veterinarians. In 2010, the U.S. Secretary of Agriculture designated 187 veterinary shortage areas nationwide. Colorado, Iowa, Kansas, Nebraska, and Texas top the list. The problem extends beyond protecting animals. Almost 70 percent of human diseases have an animal origin, the AVMA CEO said, and are often caused by bacteria such as salmonella and E. coli transmitted to humans from animals. Source:

<http://abcnews.go.com/Health/alarm-rural-veterinarian-shortage/story?id=13573184>

Safeway recalls platters over salmonella scare. Grocery operator Safeway expanded its recall on foods containing grape tomatoes due to possible salmonella contamination. Safeway said May 9 it was voluntarily recalling "Eating Right Veggie Party Platter." It said the product was packaged by Mann's Packing using grape tomatoes sourced from grower Six L's that were recalled due to possible salmonella contamination. A week ago, Safeway recalled cubes of meat called kabobs, which include grape tomatoes, from its Safeway, Vons, Pavilions, and Pak N Save stores in several states including Arizona and California. On May 2, the company had recalled cafe salads and deli salads made with grape tomatoes. Safeway said May 8 no illness had been reported and the recall was a precautionary measure. Source:

<http://www.reuters.com/article/2011/05/10/us-safeway-idUSTRE7490GV20110510>

(Alabama) Twisters pummel poultry industry. Alabama's nearly \$3 billion-a-year poultry business, the largest segment of an agricultural industry that dominates the state, was dealt a crippling blow from destructive storms. Alabama churned out 1.04 billion chickens, or about 12 percent of total U.S. production, in 2010 ranking the state behind only Georgia and Arkansas, according to the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA). Much of Alabama's bird business is located in the hard-hit northern half of the state, where the rolling terrain is better suited to raising chickens than row crops. The state's latest count of confirmed chicken deaths is nearly 3.2 million. "That's only what we've been able to identify," Alabama's agriculture commissioner said. "There's going to be a lot more." Lost birds are only part of the problem. Widespread

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power outages have shut down feed mills, processing plants and rendering facilities, which turn offal, feathers and other by-products into protein meal fed to the next generation of broilers, disrupting a tightly coordinated production cycle. Water shortages at many growing houses could prompt premature slaughters, pushing chickens that had been destined for commodity markets, where they would be sold whole or as fryer parts, to prepared-food facilities and turned into chicken nuggets and cutlets instead. Ultimately, prices could rise, which would help processors and growers who have been pinched by depressed prices and rising feed costs.

Source:

<http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424052748703992704576307492563602626.html>

Dry weather may cut U.S. winter wheat harvest to five-year low. The U.S. winter wheat harvest may shrink to the smallest in 5 years as dry weather hurt crops in Kansas, Texas, and other major growing areas, some analysts said prior to the government's first estimate for the 2011 crop. An analyst with North American Risk Management Services, Inc., in Chicago projected the winter wheat crop, which will be harvested over the next few months, at 1.378 billion bushels. That estimate is down 7.2 percent from the 1.485 billion bushels of winter wheat harvested in 2010 and would be the smallest crop since 2006, when production was 1.294 billion bushels, according to U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) data. The USDA is scheduled to release its first estimates for the 2011 winter wheat crop May 11, and will also update its monthly supply and demand data the same day. Source:

<http://www.cattlenetwork.com/cattle-news/latest/Dry-weather-may-cut-US-winter-wheat-harvest-to-five-year-low-121468519.html>

Crop damage from weather growing as cost of grains advances. Less than a year after the worst drought in a generation destroyed one-third of Russia's wheat crop and sent global food prices surging, more bad weather is damaging fields from North America to Europe to Asia. Corn planting in the United States, the world's largest grower, is advancing at half of last year's pace because of excess rain, government data shows. The Canadian Wheat Board said fields are so muddy that only 3 percent of grain has been sown, compared with 40 percent normally. At the same time, drought left the Kansas wheat crop in the worst shape since 1996, and dry spells are threatening crops in France, Australia, and China. The United Nations said global food costs advanced in April for the ninth time in 10 months, and higher commodity expenses led food makers including General Mills Inc. and McDonald's Corp. to boost prices to consumers. Weather, especially in the United States, may be the "swing factor" for rebuilding global grain inventories, said a wheat economist with Doane Advisory Services, an agricultural research company in St. Louis. Source: <http://www.businessweek.com/news/2011-05-10/crop-damage-from-weather-growing-as-cost-of-grains-advances.html>

GOVERNMENT SECTOR (INCLUDING SCHOOLS AND UNIVERSITIES)

(Missouri) **Missouri gunman captured after entering Army post, university campus.** Missouri police captured a gunman who allegedly engaged in a shootout with law enforcement officers

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and spurred a nearly 5-hour manhunt after entering a Missouri U.S. Army post and nearby university campus early May 12. The suspect is in custody and suffering from a wound to his arm, police said. The 31-year-old man faces four felony charges of assault on law enforcement and will be held on \$1 million dollar bond, the Rolla police chief said. The suspect allegedly attempted to enter Fort Leonard Wood near Waynesville, Missouri, around 8:30 a.m., a spokesperson for the post said. When security asked the man to stop at the gate and submit to further inspection, authorities said he refused to do so. After exiting, the suspect continued to evade authorities, driving down I-44 and allegedly firing on police with an AK-47 assault rifle. Police set up spike strips on the highway, prompting the suspect to exit the highway and enter the college town of Rolla, the home of the Missouri University of Science and Technology. "The suspect then began shooting at the Rolla Police Officers and members of the County Sheriff's department as they pursued him," the police chief said at an earlier press conference. Police said the suspect then jumped out of the car and stole a 2003 Ford Taurus. A scant blood trail was left from where the man jumped out of the car and into the grey Taurus, police said. At least one car was riddled with bullet holes, and police later found drugs that appeared to be crystal meth in the car the suspect was initially driving. University officials said the man fired shots near the campus, but not on the campus, and the campus remained on lockdown throughout the morning. Source: <http://abcnews.go.com/US/missouri-gunman-captured-entering-fort-leonard-wood-missouri/story?id=13589605>

(Texas) Suspicious white substance forces evacuation. A suspicious letter was found May 10 inside the building of the Texas Health and Human Services Division in San Antonio. A San Antonio Fire Department spokesperson said some workers were opening letters and putting away files when they started to complain saying they were itching and were having problems breathing. About 200 people were evacuated as a precaution, while haz-mat crews conducted a thorough sweep of the building. The spokesperson said six people were treated for similar symptoms on the scene, which could have been caused from the stress of the ordeal. Haz-mat crews did not find anything, and after a couple of hours workers were able to go home. Source: <http://www.woai.com/news/local/story/Suspicious-white-substance-forces-evacuation/FJbfzNqPJket6ZJY8o67mA.csp>

(Indiana) Teen arrested in N. Ind. school shooting threat. Police in northern Indiana arrested a 14-year-old boy who they believe is responsible for a note threatening a school shooting. An Elkhart County sheriff's captain said the note claimed the shooting would take place May 10 at Concord Junior High School near Elkhart. The Elkhart Truth reports the note was found late May 9 by a school staffer, and that a caller told police the boy wrote it. Police said the teen was being held in juvenile detention on a preliminary charge of intimidation. Parents were notified of the arrest in a recorded call May 10. The newspaper reports another threat was found the week of May 2 in a girl's restroom at the school. No arrests have been made over that threat. Source: <http://www.fox28.com/Global/story.asp?S=14615452>

(Illinois) Illinois man admits plotting to bomb federal courthouse and is sentenced to 28 years in prison. A 31-year-old Decatur, Illinois man pleaded guilty May 9 to attempting to bomb the federal courthouse in Springfield in September 2009 and was immediately sentenced to serve

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28 years in prison, according to the acting assistant attorney general for national security who is a U.S. attorney of the Central District of Illinois, and the acting special agent in charge of the FBI Springfield division. At the hearing in East St. Louis, Illinois, the suspect appeared before a U.S. district judge and entered a plea of guilty to one count of attempted use of a weapon of mass destruction (an explosive bomb) against property owned by the United States. According to the plea agreement and other documents filed in court, the man admitted that on September 23, 2009, he traveled from Decatur to Springfield, where he knowingly took possession of a truck that he believed contained a bomb with approximately one ton of explosives. The explosive device was inert. The man drove the truck to the federal building and courthouse, where he parked immediately outside the federal building and across the street from an office used by a U.S. Congressman. After the man parked the van and armed the device, he locked the truck and got into a vehicle with an undercover law enforcement agent whom he believed was associated with the al Qaida terrorist organization. The man then used a cell phone to attempt to remotely detonate the purported bomb after he and the undercover agent had driven a safe distance away. The case was investigated by the Springfield FBI Joint Terrorism Task Force and assisting law enforcement agencies. Source:

<http://springfield.fbi.gov/dojpressrel/pressrel11/si050911.htm>

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS

More rogue apps pulled from Android market. Google pulled another set of trojanized apps from the Android market that were silently subscribing users to premium rate services via SMS. According to security researchers from AegisLab who analyzed the malicious code, the apps contained an SMS trojan. They were posted by a user named “zsone” and had names like iBook, iCartoon, iCalendar, iMine, iMatch, iGuide, LoveBaby, 3D Cube horror terrible, Sea Ball, Shake Break, or ShakeBanger. The number of affected apps might be larger, and Google is still investigating more suspicious ones, but at the moment, those have been confirmed as malicious. It appears SMS trojan is targeting Chinese users because it sends subscription codes to special numbers that only work in China. Also, the attackers have been taken measures to hide the malicious behavior. It is unclear if the rogue subscriptions result in a one-time charge or if users have their accounts billed monthly for the fake service. Many experts find the increasing trend of uploading trojanized apps on the official Android Market troubling, especially since there is little oversight from Google regarding the publishing process. Source: <http://news.softpedia.com/news/More-Rogue-Apps-Pulled-from-Android-Market-199944.shtml>

Facebook caught exposing millions of user credentials. Facebook has leaked access to millions of users’ photographs, profiles, and other personal information because of a years-old bug that overrides individual privacy settings, Symantec researchers said. The flaw, which researchers estimate has affected hundreds of thousands of applications, exposed user access tokens to advertisers and others. The tokens serve as a spare set of keys Facebook apps use to perform certain actions on behalf of the user, such as posting messages to a Facebook wall or sending RSVP replies to invitations. For years, many apps that rely on an older form of user

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authentication turned over these keys to third parties, giving them the ability to access information users specifically designated as off limits. The Symantec researchers said Facebook has fixed the underlying bug, but they warned that tokens already exposed may still be widely accessible. While many access tokens expire shortly after they are issued, Facebook also supplies offline access tokens that remain valid indefinitely. Facebook users can close this potential security hole by changing their passwords, which immediately revokes all previously issued keys. Source:

http://www.theregister.co.uk/2011/05/10/facebook_user_credentials_leaked/

Facebook scammers go back to using Javascript. As users become accustomed to ignoring one particular scam approach — and as Facebook is becoming more adept at spotting and blocking the rogue applications — the copy/paste script one is making a comeback. The most popular lure used by these scammers is the undying “See who viewed your profile” offer. The landing page could be a Facebook one or one hosted on another domain, and it asks the user to copy some Javascript into the browser address bar and press “Enter.” Once the directions are executed, the user is asked to fill out a survey in order to finally get the results. In the meantime, the Java script does its job. “Depending on the configurations of the attacker, the script will post a new bait message to the user’s wall, send chat messages to friends, tag you in post messages or images, or even create an event and send an invitation to all your friends,” Symantec explains. “Of course as always the attack is easy configurable through a toolkit. Since the script runs in the context of Facebook and uses your open session it can do a lot with your profile, it can do nearly everything you could do yourself.” Source: <http://www.net-security.org/secworld.php?id=10987>

Google Images search results may lead to malicious sites. Postings by SANS Internet Storm Center and a security specialist describe how, in recent weeks, both have been receiving many reports that vulnerabilities in Google Images search are being exploited to load malicious software onto users’ systems. Both sources state users were being led to fake anti-virus Web sites and presented with false security alerts. The Internet Storm Center gives a detailed description of the exploit: legitimate sites are compromised and scripts are planted on them; these scripts monitor Google Trends for suitable search terms and create fake Web pages containing text and images culled from various Web sites; these Web pages and the images they contain are then indexed by the Google bots; when a user clicks on a relevant thumbnail in the results of a Google Images search, the exploit will be triggered and the user directed to a fake anti-virus Web site. Source: <http://www.h-online.com/security/news/item/Google-Images-search-results-may-lead-to-malicious-sites-1238858.html>

Sony deals with third breach. Sony has dealt with a new breach over the weekend of May 7 and 8 that exposed the names and partial addresses of 2,500 people who participated in a sweepstakes contest 10 years ago. Sony learned about the intrusion after hackers stole the information and posted it on a public Web site. The company took measures to remove the data from the Internet and apologized for the new incident. The information was taken from a Web site that was used for a product sweepstakes contest back in 2001. “The Web site was out of date and inactive when discovered as part of the continued attacks on Sony,” the company

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told Reuters. No credit card details, Social Security numbers, or user passwords were compromised in this new incident. The breach comes after recent reports that a group of hackers was planning a new attack against Sony that was to involve the disclosure of sensitive information stolen from its systems. There is no evidence to definitely link the rumored plan to the new breach. Sony also announced that restoring the PlayStation Network and Qriocity services has been further delayed. Source: <http://news.softpedia.com/news/Sony-Deals-with-Third-Breach-199092.shtml>

NATIONAL MONUMENTS AND ICONS

Nothing Significant to Report

POSTAL AND SHIPPING

Nothing Significant to Report

PUBLIC HEALTH

Bedbugs can carry drug-resistant bacteria: study. A new report suggests bedbugs can carry drug-resistant bacteria — better known as “superbugs.” Canadian researchers found methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* (MRSA) and vancomycin-resistant *Enterococcus faecium* (VRE) on bedbugs collected from three hospitalized patients, according to the report published May 11 in *Emerging Infectious Diseases* — the U.S. Center for Disease Control and Prevention’s journal. But whether the bugs can actually infect a person remains unclear. “There is no evidence that bedbugs can infect people with disease,” the director of clinical microbiology and immunology at New York University’s Langone Medical Center said. But *Staphylococcus aureus* — a bacterium with a knack for entering the body through broken skin — could theoretically make the leap from pest to person, researchers said. “The claim that bedbugs can spread MRSA is unproven but not a misguided thought,” an infectious disease specialist at Harvard Medical School said. For the claim to be true, scientists would have to prove that a person’s MRSA infection came from the bedbug and not the patient’s skin — a tricky experiment, given that bedbugs escape their hosts undetected. Most healthy people have immune systems that can stave off MRSA and VRE infections, according to the chief of infectious diseases at Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine in Baltimore. Source: <http://abcnews.go.com/Health/Wellness/bedbugs-carry-drug-resistant-bacteria-study/story?id=13571434>

(Massachusetts) Five measles cases confirmed in Mass. Five new cases of measles have been confirmed in Massachusetts in the past week, including a man in his 40s who worked at Boston’s South Station train station while contagious, health officials said May 10. One patient is a Boston resident and the other four sought treatment at Boston health care facilities, visited the city, or worked in the city while contagious, according to the Boston Public Health Commission (BPHC). The patients range in age from 16-months to 65-years-old and come from other regions across Massachusetts. There have been 10 confirmed cases of measles in

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Massachusetts in 2011, a state department of public health spokeswoman said. So far, no link has been established between any of the five newest patients. A Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority (MBTA) spokesman declined to comment on whether the South Station worker was a T employee, saying only, "The MBTA acts in accordance with any specific information it receives from public health officials." Source:

http://news.bostonherald.com/news/regional/view/2011_0510five_measles_cases_confirmed_in_mass/

(New Mexico) Man in New Mexico diagnosed with bubonic plague; first case of 'Black Death' in 2011. A 58-year-old man in New Mexico was recently treated for bubonic plague, the first case of the disease to surface in 2011. Santa Fe health officials said the unidentified man spent a week in the hospital after suffering high fever, intense pain in his stomach and groin, and swollen lymph nodes. He was treated and released, but officials would not say when. The results of blood tests released May 5 confirmed the man had bubonic plague, officials said. Doctors said the man was most likely bitten by a flea carrying the plague bacteria, the most common method of transmission to humans. Only about 10 to 15 people in the United States catch the illness each year, typically in western states. It is particularly prevalent in New Mexico because the state has a high population of both rodents and fleas. It can be treated with antibiotics, but 1 in 7 cases are fatal. The last reported outbreaks of plague in New Mexico were in 2009, when three people died. Source:

http://www.nydailynews.com/news/national/2011/05/08/2011-05-08_man_in_new_mexico_diagnosed_with_bubonic_plague_first_case_of_black_death_in_2011.html

TRANSPORTATION

DOT to investigate controller errors. U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) auditors May 11 said they will investigate the sharp increase in the number of errors reported by air-traffic controllers. Errors in which controllers allowed planes to get too close together rose from 1,040 to 1,887 from 2007 to 2010, an 81 percent jump, the Federal Aviation Administration reported earlier this year. The agency said that errors have risen because of several efforts to improve internal reporting, not as a result of safety problems. The DOT Inspector General will examine the increase in errors, and also a program begun many years ago that gives controllers who come forward about their own errors immunity from punishment. The investigation was requested by House and Senate lawmakers. It comes as controllers are facing scrutiny for nine incidents reported earlier this year where controllers fell asleep, watched a video, or made errors involving the plane of the U.S. President's wife. Source:

<http://travel.usatoday.com/flights/post/2011/05/controller-investigation/169889/1>

Chemical attack detection system, more cameras planned for L.A. rail lines. Transportation officials are planning security upgrades along Los Angeles, California, county's network of rail lines over the next year, including a chemical attack detection system and scores of new video surveillance cameras. The improvements were planned before U.S. officials announced they had found evidence that al-Qa'ida's leader was planning some type of attack on U.S. rail

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systems. But officials said the roughly \$10 million worth of safety upgrades comes at an opportune moment. "Our timing's perfect, it is fortuitous," said a Los Angeles County supervisor who is also chairman of the Metropolitan Transportation Authority (MTA) board. In response to the al-Qai'da leader's killing and discovery of rail attack plans, she said May 6 that Metro was responding by elevating security and asking the public to be vigilant. While some media organizations said the plans found in his compound specifically mentioned Los Angeles, she said officials were not aware of any specific threats to the city's rail network. Source: <http://latimesblogs.latimes.com/lanow/2011/05/chemical-attack-detection-system-more-cameras-planned-for-la-rail-lines.html>

(Colorado) 4 arrested at DIA for attempting to breach security. Three men and one woman were arrested May 7 in Denver, Colorado after a security incident at Denver International Airport (DIA), authorities said. At around 10:15 a.m. two men tried to get through security without boarding passes or identification, while a woman in the group carried both forms, a Denver police spokesman said. A fourth man appeared to be filming the incident. According to police, no threats were made and none of the people involved had weapons. All four were being held for interfering with a transportation facility. A spokesperson for the FBI said they were aware of the incident, but it is currently being handled by Denver police. Source: <http://www.kdvr.com/news/kdvr-4-arrested-at-dia-for-attempting-to-breach-security-20110507,0,1397902.story>

(Illinois) Man charged for allegedly trying to open plane door. An Illinois man who allegedly tried to open an emergency exit door of a plane in mid-flight was charged by federal prosecutors May 9 with interfering with a flight crew and crimes involving aircraft, authorities said May 9. The 34-year-old man of Burbank, Illinois could face 10 years in jail for each of the two counts. According to prosecutors, the suspect boarded Continental Airline flight 546 in Houston, Texas May 8, heading for Chicago, Illinois. After the flight took off he rushed up the aisle toward the front of the aircraft where a flight attendant tried to stop him. He pinned the flight attendant against the wall and repeatedly tried to open the emergency door, the complaint added. The suspect was reportedly subdued by passengers and crew members, and the plane was diverted to St. Louis, Missouri, where it landed at Lambert International Airport at 1:28 p.m. Source: http://news.yahoo.com/s/nm/20110510/us_nm/us_flight_door_charge

(Pennsylvania) Police: IED found near Chester train tracks. Police from Chester, Pennsylvania, are urging vigilance after they found an improvised explosive device May 6 near Amtrak and Septa railroad tracks and the Commodore Barry Bridge. "Police said the device consisted of two bottles with a yellow liquid inside. They said one had a timer and wires attached by duct tape. "Police were not sure if the device was really explosive but evacuated the area as a precaution. The Delaware County bomb squad determined that it was and disarmed it. "The device was found about 2 p.m., near third and Reaney Streets, which is underneath the bridge and close to the tracks Septa's Wilmington-Newark line uses. "An investigation is underway. Source: <http://philadelphia.cbslocal.com/2011/05/06/police-ied-found-near-chester-train-tracks/>

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(New York; New Jersey) 2 rail security breaches cause scares. Two rail security breaches reportedly occurred within hours of each other in New York, New York, May 8 as authorities remained on alert for an al-Qaida attack. In one breach near the World Trade Center, a man slipped into a train tunnel and walked from Manhattan to New Jersey before saying that he left a bomb in the tunnel. That scare — and an unrelated escapade involving four “urban explorers” infiltrating an under-construction subway tunnel — came just days after the FBI warned that al-Qaida could be targeting U.S. trains. There was no bomb on the tracks, police said. Officials said that a 20-year-old man, of Bayonne, New Jersey, hopped down onto the tracks in a Manhattan tunnel from a station being patrolled by two Port Authority officers. The suspect then walked the 2 miles to Jersey City, New Jersey. A Port Authority contractor spotted him exiting at around 3 a.m. May 8 and called police. “I just put a bomb down on the tracks,” he allegedly told officers. The tunnel was shut down while the Joint Terrorism Task Force and bomb-sniffing dogs searched for a device. He was charged with criminal trespass, evaluated at a hospital, and released. Separately, at around 4:30 a.m., police arrested four men who allegedly sneaked into the Second Avenue subway tunnel carrying Roman candles and cameras. The men told cops they were part of an “urban explorers” group and that they planned to use the fireworks for light for photos. The four were charged with criminal trespass after a Harlem resident alerted cops that the group descended into the tunnel around 112th Street. Source:

<http://www.myfoxny.com/dpp/news/2-rail-security-breaches-cause-scares-new-york-city-ncx-20110509>

(California, Missouri; New Mexico) Man subdued after disturbance on S.F.-bound flight. A retired police officer and a retired U.S. Secret Service agent helped wrestle a man to the cabin floor after he began pounding on the cockpit as an American Airlines (AA) flight approached San Francisco, California, the third security incident in a day on U.S. planes, authorities said May 9. The man, who had a Yemeni passport, was yelling unintelligibly as he brushed past a flight attendant minutes before AA Flight 1561 was due at San Francisco International Airport May 8, a San Francisco police sergeant said. The Boeing 737, which reportedly came from Chicago’s O’Hare International Airport, was carrying 162 people and landed safely at 9:10 p.m. The 28-year-old carried a California identification card and the Yemeni passport, but it wasn’t clear if his nationality was also Yemeni, the police sergeant said. The man was charged with interfering with a flight crew, a federal offense. The incident was the third disturbance of the day in U.S. airspace. A Continental Airlines flight from Houston, Texas to Chicago diverted in St. Louis, Missouri after a 34-year-old man from Illinois tried to open a plane door during the flight, officials said. A Continental spokeswoman said Flight No. 546 landed around 1:30 p.m. and was grounded about an hour before resuming its journey. FBI and airport police questioned the passenger. No charges have been filed. Shortly before that, a Delta Air Lines flight from Detroit, Michigan to San Diego, California landed instead in Albuquerque, New Mexico, because of a security scare but authorities found “no suspicious devices” on the plane, an FBI spokesman said. He did not describe the “potential security threat” that caused Flight 1706 to land in New Mexico. He said agents searched the plane and interviewed the crew and 107 passengers before clearing the aircraft to fly again. No one was arrested. The flight was diverted at 10 a.m. and was cleared to fly again around 12:30 p.m., an official said. Source:

<http://www.wbez.org/story/2011-05-09/man-subdued-after-disturbance-sf-bound-flight-86250>

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WATER AND DAMS

(Oregon) Suspicious intruder took photos of Oregon dam. Federal authorities are continuing their investigation into a man who climbed a razor-wire fence in the middle of the night to walk to the middle of the Lookout Point Dam in Lane County, Oregon to take pictures. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has surveillance video of the March 2 intruder of the dam, which is located on the middle fork of the Willamette River in Lowell. The Eugene Register Guard reports the Corps is offering a \$1,000 reward for information that leads to his arrest. Officials fear the intrusion could lead to a future threat to the dam. Source:

<http://www.statesmanjournal.com/article/20110513/UPDATE/110513002/Suspicious-intruder-took-photos-Oregon-dam?odyssey=tab|topnews|text|News>

(Arkansas) Mountain Pure bottled water recall issued in Clinton, Arkansas. About 23,000 bottles of Mountain Pure purified water that were distributed as part of disaster relief efforts in Clinton, Arkansas are being recalled due to mold contamination. The recall was announced by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) May 4 after Arkansas Department of Health (ADH) officials tested samples and found biological contamination. The mold has not been identified and there have been no reports of illnesses associated with the recall. However, state officials estimate about 90 percent of the recalled water bottles are already in the hands of the public. The recall affects all Mountain Pure 16.9 fl oz. (506 ml) bottles. The plastic bottles will have a military-style time code of 2200 to 0400 etched into them, and also have an expiration date code that says Best By 2-27-2013 MPWA or Best By 2-28-2013 MPWA. The recall is limited to about 16 pallets of Mountain Pure water, with each pallet holding 60 cases and each case carrying 24 bottles. Arkansas officials said it may take several days to identify the source of the contamination. In the meantime, state officials have asked residents to return the bottles for a full refund or discard them. State officials believe dust got into bottles during the purification process. Following flooding in Arkansas, customers of the Clinton Water Department have been instructed to boil their water for a least a minute before drinking it. Source:

<http://www.aboutlawsuits.com/mountain-pure-bottled-water-recall-18062/>

(Pennsylvania; New York) Tainted drinking water found near gas wells. A new study from Duke University found potentially explosive levels of methane in drinking water supplies located close to natural gas wells with levels so high they create the risk of explosion. The study, released May 9, said about half of the 68 drinking water wells tested in Pennsylvania and New York located within a half a mile from natural gas wells had high levels of methane — the prime ingredient in natural gas fuel. The gas, which is usually located thousands of feet below the water table, appears to be entering the water wells either through cracks in the bedrock or, more likely, the casing in natural gas wells, an environmental sciences professor at Duke said. Casings are steel and concrete barriers natural gas companies use to line a well where it passes through the water table. The professor suspects hydraulic fracturing may be to blame. The process, known as fracking for short, uses vast amounts of chemically-laced water, sand, and pressure to crack shale rock and release the gas. The gas industry criticized the study's methodology, saying the well samples were not random and that no baseline data existed

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before the study. The industry has previously said many of the wells contained methane before natural gas drilling began, and that is it generally not harmful or problematic. Source:

<http://www.theindychannel.com/news/27829907/detail.html>

NORTH DAKOTA HOMELAND SECURITY CONTACTS

To report a homeland security incident, please contact your local law enforcement agency or one of these agencies: **North Dakota State and Local Intelligence Center:** 866-885-8295(IN ND ONLY); Email: ndslic@nd.gov; Fax: 701-328-8175 **State Radio:** 800-472-2121; **Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI):** 701-328-5500; **North Dakota Highway Patrol:** 701-328-2455; **US Attorney's Office Intel Analyst:** 701-297-7400; **Bismarck FBI:** 701-223-4875; **Fargo FBI:** 701-232-7241.

To contribute to this summary or if you have questions or comments, please contact:

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